



## The Trustees of Reservations

*Conserving the  
Massachusetts Landscape  
Since 1891*

# SPECIAL PLACES

Volume 6, No. 4  Fall 1998

### A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

*For Members and Donors of  
The Trustees of Reservations*



View north from a rocky ledge on the summit of Peaked Mountain in Monson.

## A Conservation Opportunity Arises at Peaked Mountain in Monson

From the top of Peaked Mountain in Monson, a panoramic 180° view unfolds to the north and east, from the historic Bradway Millpond in the foreground to Mt. Wachusett and Mt. Monadnock on the distant horizon. In between lies a magnificent sweep of rolling central New England countryside with its forested ridges, valley farms, towns, and roads.

This is land that not only offers wonderful scenic prospects, but diverse habitats for wildlife and a rich human history. From hard-scrabble pioneer farms and charcoal production for the nearby iron industry, to communities for the growing mill town of Monson and the expanding Springfield region, Peaked Mountain tells an important story of the interaction of people with the land.

For years, several owners of land on Peaked Mountain have welcomed the public to hike the terrain and enjoy its hardwood forest and scenic vistas. Concerned about its future, though, they turned for help to The Trustees of Reservations.

Working with these landowners, The Trustees has fashioned a plan to protect more than 250 acres on and near Peaked Mountain. Landowners Len and Roslyn Harrington and Dick Elliott have generously agreed to donate more than 140 acres of land, and to protect other portions of their property through perpetual conservation restrictions and a long-term lease.


The Trustees will purchase two other critical parcels of land, including the summit of Peaked Mountain and a beautiful 17-acre pond near its base. In cooperation with The Trustees,

the Norcross Wildlife Foundation is protecting an adjacent 250-acre parcel, including a pond and beaver swamp, with hopes of extending this new greenway south to Connecticut's Shenipsit State Forest.

We now have an exciting conservation opportunity, one that will result in the protection of a magnificent swath of the Hampden County countryside for our, and future, generations to enjoy for all time.

Establishing a public reservation at Peaked Mountain will require the creativity, hard work, and collaborative spirit of many people, including conservation-minded citizens, local volunteers, and members of the local business community. Most pressing is the challenge of raising \$375,000 over the next several months to purchase two key parcels (\$193,300), pay for transactional and start-up costs to create the reservation (\$37,950), and set up an endowment fund to cover annual management costs (\$143,750).

If you would like to help save Peaked Mountain, please consider making a fully tax-deductible donation to the Peaked Mountain Preservation Fund. Mail your check payable to *The Trustees of Reservations* to: PEAKED MOUNTAIN PRESERVATION FUND, c/o Monson Savings Bank, 146 Main Street, Monson, MA 01057.

For further information, contact Land Protection Specialist, Charlie Wyman, at 978/524-1867 or email him at [cwyman@ttor.org](mailto:cwyman@ttor.org) 

*continued on page 3*

## Thoughts from the Executive Director...



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Many of you responded to our appeal last quarter for nominations of special places in need of protection. Thank you very much! Together with the suggestions made at 28 separate meetings across the state, we are now evaluating over 250 properties for land conservation action by The Trustees!

So, what happens now? The next step is to weave together a coherent plan from the wide assortment of ideas put forward. It's a bit too early to declare a new land conservation strategy, but let me venture a sneak preview. Based on a few of the more persuasive arguments we have heard during our planning process, here's some of what you are likely to see.

First of all, The Trustees will become increasingly active in parts of the state where we have not had a major presence in the past. We are on the lookout for special places where we can make a significant difference, either on our own or in collaboration with other groups. Two on-going land conservation projects reported in this issue of *Special Places*—Peaked Mountain in Monson and Slocum's River in Dartmouth—are both excellent examples of our renewed commitment to protect land in every corner of the state. While The Trustees has been "in business" since 1891, how many residents of Dartmouth or Monson had heard of us until very recently?

The Slocum's River conservation story reintroduces another theme for the years ahead—that of preserving working landscapes. A very high percent of scenically important landscapes in Massachusetts are so-called "farmscapes." Indeed, it's been said that farmers are society's unpaid landscape gardeners! We believe it appropriate for Massachusetts' leading land conservation organization to be more active in the support of agricultural land use. Specifically, The Trustees will likely increase our role in protecting special places in the Connecticut River Valley and the Buzzards Bay area.

While different in many respects, these regions are home to some of the state's most important and scenic agricultural lands long associated with the special character of the river and bay they frame. Due to their beauty, rising real estate values, and the hard times that have struck the agricultural sector, these working landscapes are under intense development pressure.

At a recent gathering in Amherst that included representatives from most of the 19 locally active conservation groups, we proposed the idea of establishing a new reservation in the Connecticut River Valley and expanding our work with the state's Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR) program. The response was overwhelmingly positive. By undertaking "pre-acquisitions" (the temporary purchase of an APR until the state can repurchase it), The Trustees would enable many of the local land trusts to work on other priority projects. A special revolving fund for conservation in the region was also suggested.

In the Buzzard's Bay area, we have established in recent years a presence through our 12 conservation restrictions in Westport, Marion, and Mattapoisett. As already mentioned, in close collaboration with the Dartmouth Natural Resource Trust, we hope to protect several important parcels along the Slocum's River. Ten further properties have been nominated as special places, several of which combine both working and natural landscapes with views of Buzzard's Bay.

The dual challenge ahead is to both strengthen and expand our land protection work while providing the resources required to monitor and manage what we already protect. With your continued help and support, we know we can meet this challenge!

Frederic Winthrop  
Executive Director

### The Trustees of Reservations

*Conserving the  
Massachusetts Landscape  
Since 1891*

We invite your articles,  
photographs, comments, and  
suggestions. Please send them to:

*Special Places*  
Headquarters • Long Hill  
572 Essex Street  
Beverly, MA 01915-1530  
Tel 978/921-1944  
Fax 978/921-1948  
Email cmdept@ttor.org

Founded in 1891, The Trustees of Reservations is a member-supported nonprofit conservation organization which preserves, for public use and enjoyment, properties of exceptional scenic, historic, and ecological value in Massachusetts and works to protect special places across the state. Today, The Trustees owns, manages, and interprets 80 reservations totaling over 21,000 acres of land, and protects nearly 11,500 acres through the use of conservation restrictions on 165 parcels of privately held land. The Trustees of Reservations is not an agency of state government. We rely for support entirely upon membership dues, contributions, grants, reservation receipts, special events, and endowments.

For information about becoming a member, please contact the Membership Office at 978/524-1858, or write to The Trustees at 572 Essex Street, Beverly, MA 01915-1530.

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## Peaked Mountain...

*continued from front cover*

### Come see a conservation work-in-progress!

The Trustees, along with the Harringtons, Dick Elliott, and other conservation-minded neighbors, invite you to hike Peaked Mountain and discover its beautiful woodland trails and magnificent views from the summit's open ledges. Trails are open to the public daily, 8 A.M. to sunset, and trail maps are available at the trail head. Allow 45 minutes to make the gentle, 500 foot ascent to the mountain's summit from the field parking area.

#### **DIRECTIONS** From the Mass Pike (Exit 8 Palmer) or Rte 20 in Palmer:

Take Rte 32 south to the center of Monson and continue south .5 mile.

Turn right onto Bliss St., bear right at Oak St. junction, pass under the railroad bridge, and proceed straight through next intersection onto Lower Hampden Rd. Continue for 3 miles as road twists and turns, then turn left onto Butler Rd. Parking area 1.2 miles on left.



Lunden/Miller Pond at the base of Peaked Mountain.

## Saving Slocum's River in Dartmouth

Late last year, The Trustees and the Dartmouth Natural Resources Trust (DNRT) formed a special partnership and enlisted the support of a broad coalition of state agencies and private groups to acquire and protect three parcels of land totaling 1,085 acres along the scenic and agriculturally rich Slocum's River in Dartmouth. In July, the two organizations signed a purchase and sale agreement with the Indurama Finance USA Corporation for two of the three parcels with a right of first refusal on the third. Since foreclosing on the property in 1996, Indurama has been looking for a suitable buyer to purchase the lands.



Looking south at Island View Farm located along Slocum's River.

The Trustees' Land Protection Specialist, Steve Sloan, is providing crucial assistance in this ambitious conservation project. "DNRT asked us to lead the negotiations with Indurama and work with the state agencies participating in the land's protection," he explains. "If our efforts are successful, future generations will enjoy the natural beauty of Slocum's River and benefit from the area's strong, sustainable agricultural base."

The Trustees' involvement with these lands goes back 15 years, when the state's new Agricultural Preservation Program,


under then-Commissioner Frederic Winthrop, asked The Trustees to help them pull together a protection plan.

The first parcel to be acquired will be the 116-acre Island View Farm with its picturesque agricultural fields that gently give way to almost half a mile of shoreline along Slocum's River. The Farm contains 62 acres of prime agricultural land with the remaining acreage in woodland. Once acquired, about 40 acres of Island View Farm will become a reservation co-owned and co-managed by The Trustees and DNRT. Another 60 acres will be leased or sold, under a perpetual Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR), to a farmer who will continue the Farm's proud agricultural tradition. And, the remaining acres will be divided into three large lots, each subject to appropriate building restrictions. One will be created around the existing Waldo House and the other two around caretaker houses.

The second parcel to be acquired is 641-acre Dartmoor Farm which lies directly to the west of Island View Farm. Like its neighbor, Dartmoor Farm contains prime agricultural land plus an extensive network of trails through its forest and wetlands. Once Dartmoor Farm is acquired, 106 acres of agricultural land, along with approximately 15 acres of woodland, will be protected by an APR and leased or sold to a farmer. The remaining 520-acre woodland will be sold to the state Division of Fisheries and Wildlife.

After securing the protection of Island View Farm and Dartmoor Farm, we hope to pursue the acquisition of the former 328-acre country estate called Destruction Brook Farm. This property comprises mature woodlands, farmland, rock ledges, ponds, and an historic mill.

The total cost to acquire the first two parcels—Island View Farm and Dartmoor Farm—is \$5.5 million, \$2.5 million of which will need to be raised from the private sector and business community. Already, \$2.3 million of this figure has been raised. *Help take us over the top!* If you would like to make a fully tax-deductible donation, please send a check payable to *The Trustees of Reservations* and mail, care of the Slocum's River Fund, to our Headquarters address on page 2 of this newsletter.

For further information about the Slocum's River Conservation Project, contact Steve Sloan at 781/821-2977 or email him at [selandcons@ttor.org](mailto:selandcons@ttor.org) 

## Land Conservation News Flash!

### Landowner Liability Act Amendments Signed into Law.

Long a priority of The Trustees, the Landowner Liability Act Amendments, which extend the liability protections to private landowners who provide free public access to their land, were signed into law this summer. Truly a victory for citizens of the Commonwealth who enjoy visiting its special places, these amendments will hopefully encourage landowners to work with conservation organizations, land trusts, trail groups, and watershed associations to conserve their land and open it to the public. For more detailed information about this statute, see page 4 of our Spring 1998 issue of *Special Places*.

### DEM Receives \$250,000 to Survey the Cultural

**Landscapes of Massachusetts.** With important assistance from The Trustees and Historic Massachusetts, the Department of Environmental Management was successful in securing \$250,000 in state funds to undertake a statewide inventory of the cultural landscapes of Massachusetts. The Trustees will work with DEM to design the survey which is intended to identify important, yet unprotected, landscapes which tell the story of the cultural heritage of the Commonwealth.

## Conservation Count!

Thanks to the hard work of our land conservation staff and volunteers, the generosity of our many supporters, and the dedication of our numerous collaborators, The Trustees now protects 32,653 acres of land in Massachusetts.

*Congratulations to all!*

		Acreage Protected
<b>Land Owned:</b>	<b>80 Reservations</b>	<b>21,192</b>
<b>Land Under CR:</b>	<b>165 Parcels</b>	<b>11,461</b>
		<b>32,653</b>

## Conservation Restriction Projects Completed

Since the publication of our Summer 1998 issue of *Special Places*, The Trustees has completed two more conservation restrictions:

**Spring Street Farm, Millis:** As you may recall from the cover story of our Spring 1997 issue of *Special Places*, a condition of the sale of the former DeAngelis Farm in Millis from the MLCT (an affiliate of The Trustees) to the Tangerini family was the placement of a conservation restriction on the 67-acre property, now called Spring Street Farm. This CR was given to The Trustees in April by the Spring Street Realty Trust.

**West Branch of Westport River, Westport:** Alain and Phoebe Chardon donated a conservation restriction on 38 acres of riverfront field and interior woodland on the West Branch of the Westport River. This CR is the sixth to be donated as part of the West Branch Project, an ongoing partnership among The Trustees, the Westport Land Conservation Trust, and West Branch landowners to preserve the lightly developed eastern shore.

## HISTORIC RESOURCES

### Restoring Naumkeag's Tin Leaf Ceiling

Naumkeag, the summer estate built in Stockbridge in 1886 for Caroline and Joseph Choate, is one of the best-preserved residential commissions by the preeminent Gilded Age architect, Stanford White. An important feature of his design is the dining room's tin leaf ceiling. White's intent was for the tin to act as a mirror to reflect soft light during evening meals. The warm glow of reflected light that filled the mahogany-paneled dining room was noted in a Choate family diary.




A conservator restores the tin leaf ceiling at Naumkeag.

By 1995, however, the ceiling was faded, peeling, and most of the tin leaf had flaked off. Staff faced the question of how to restore the grandeur of this room.

The most difficult part of this restoration project was finding sheets of eight-inch tin leaf squares on a paper backing that matched the material available in the late 19th Century. With the help of furniture conservator, Thom Gentle; restoration wallpaper contractor, Robert Kelly; and a metallurgist from the Fogg Art Conservation Center, we were finally able to locate tin leaf paper that matched these precise specifications.

The Stockbridge Properties Committee, which has raised funds for the preservation of Naumkeag since the early 1970s, allocated \$14,000 to complete the ceiling restoration. The contents of the dining room were placed in temporary storage, the new ceiling was installed, and the project was finished in August. Now, visitors to Naumkeag are able to enjoy the dining room much as the Choate family did in the last century.

Research led us to believe that the ceiling being replaced was the original ceiling installed in 1886. However, as the old tin leaf was removed, a penciled inscription was revealed that read, *Papered Jan 2, 1940 Al Clay*. This suggests that tin leaf ceilings have a life of approximately 50 years.

To find out more about the project and to see its remarkable results, stop by Naumkeag for a tour during the 1999 season. 



# C A L E N D A R

## A Listing of Updated and Newly Scheduled Winter Events

### CENTRAL REGION

**SAT, DEC 5 – 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.**

**SUN, DEC 6 – 12 to 4 P.M.**

#### Winter Through the Ages

*The Old Manse, Concord 978/369-3909*

Join us at The Old Manse for a view of the holidays from the colonial era through 1939. Hear Sarah A.B. Ripley explain how to identify animal tracks in the snow, listen to an excerpt from Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, learn how to make snowflakes, join us for holiday songs in the parlor, and share holiday recipes (*perhaps even sample one!*). Members & Non-members: adult \$6, child (6-12) \$4.50.

### ISLANDS REGION

The following winter walks are **FREE to Trustees Members. Non-members: adult \$5, child \$2. Please call the Islands Regional Office for directions at 508/693-7662.**

**SUN, DEC 20 – 1 P.M. to 3 P.M.**

#### Mytoi in Winter

*Mytoi Garden, Chappaquiddick Island, Martha's Vineyard*

Explore Mytoi, a Japanese-style garden on Chappaquiddick. Look for unique shapes of evergreen and deciduous trees as they lie dormant in winter. Meet at Mytoi parking lot on Dike Road.

**FRI, JAN 1**

**1 P.M. to 3 P.M.**

#### Menemsha Hills

#### New Year's Day Walk

*Menemsha Hills, Chilmark, Martha's Vineyard*

Join us for the third annual Menemsha Hills walk to ring in the New Year on a healthy note. A brisk walk to the overlook will reward you with beautiful, blustery views. Meet at Menemsha Hills parking lot off North Road.

**SUN, FEB 21**

**1 P.M. to 3 P.M.**

#### Wasque in Winter

*Wasque, Chappaquiddick Island, Martha's Vineyard*

Walk the trails at Wasque, checking the forest and trail above Swan Pond for winter birds. Look for signs of winter along the way. Meet at parking lot adjacent to Wasque gatehouse.

### NORTHEAST REGION

#### CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTIES

**Thurs, Dec 10 – 3:30 to 5 P.M. (snow date Thurs, Dec 17)**

**Tues, Dec 15 – 3:30 to 5 P.M. (snow date Wed, Dec 16)**

*The Great House, Castle Hill, Ipswich 978/356-4351*

Give your kids a Christmas to remember—Christmas at Castle Hill! Jim the Juggler will bring merriment to the Great House with his amazing juggling feats, and Santa Claus will stop by for a visit with each child. Christmas cookies and punch will be served. This party is appropriate for children ages 3 to 7. Members: child \$15, parents free. Non-members: child \$18, parents free.

**SUN, DEC 13 – 4 P.M.**

#### Victorian Parlor Concert

*The Great House, Castle Hill, Ipswich 978/356-4351*

Enjoy a lively costumed Christmas event in the Great House ballroom. Victorian singer Wendy Betts and piano accompanist Priscilla Walter will present a fun, interactive program which includes a period set, Christmas carols, and an audience sing-along. Refreshments will be served. Members & Non-members: \$18.

**SUN, JAN 3 – 8 A.M. to 5 P.M.**

#### Cross-Country Skiing at Castle Hill

*Castle Hill, Ipswich 978/356-4351*

Explore the Crane Estate on skis! Sorry, trails will not be groomed. Participants should provide their own skis. Members: FREE. Non-members: \$5 per car.

## CASTLE HILL Showhouse *Holiday* & Boutique

**FRI, DEC 4 – 6 P.M. to 9 P.M.**

**SAT, DEC 5 and SUN, DEC 6 – 10 A.M. to 5 P.M.**

*The Great House, Castle Hill, Ipswich 978/356-4351*

Tour the Great House transformed for the holidays by professional florists and garden clubs. Each room will be decorated by a different group, creating a stunning holiday atmosphere. Visit the Great House's holiday boutique (*Saturday only*) for great gifts and crafts including Castle Hill ornaments and chocolates. Hot cider will be served. Members: FREE. Non-members: adult \$9, senior or child \$7.

**SUN, FEB 7 – 12 NOON**

#### 4th Annual Priscilla of Boston at Castle Hill Bridal Show

*The Great House, Castle Hill, Ipswich 978/356-4351*

You are cordially invited to a benefit champagne luncheon and bridal fashion show featuring exquisite gowns by Priscilla of Boston. The event will be catered by Liz Horan of Hamilton, and flowers will be provided by A Secret Garden in Ipswich. \$45 per person. Seats are limited. *All proceeds will benefit The Trustees of Reservations.*

**SUN, FEB 21 – 11 A.M. to 2 P.M.**

#### Kids Snowperson Building Contest at Castle Hill

*Castle Hill, Ipswich 978/356-4351*

Help us line the first allee with festive snowpeople. Prizes will be awarded for the best creations. Kids 3 to 12 may compete. Hot cocoa will be provided. Members: FREE. Non-members: \$5 per car.

## WESTERN REGION

**DEC through FEB – 10 A.M. to 12 NOON**  
**SECOND and LAST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH**  
**Nature in Winter**

*Bartholomew's Cobble, Sheffield 413/229-8600*

Join a naturalist at Bartholomew's Cobble and learn to recognize signs of the natural world's struggle for survival through the winter. Weather permitting. Please call to pre-register and bring snow shoes if necessary. Members: adult \$4, child (8-16) \$1. Non-members: adult \$6, child (8-16) \$2.

**FRI, DEC 4 through SUN, DEC 6**  
**Christmas at the Bryant Homestead**

*William Cullen Bryant Homestead, Cummington 413/634-2244*

Experience the magic of Christmas at the Homestead as you stroll through ten rooms full of old-fashioned warmth and charm decorated by the Homestead Committee and area decorators. A Christmas gift shop will also be open. Weekend festivities begin Friday evening and continue through Sunday. Please call for exact times. Members: adult \$3, child free. Non-members: adult \$5, child \$2.

**SAT, DEC 5**

**Ski Season Starts at Notchview**

**Daily – 8 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.**

*Notchview, Windsor 413/684-0148*

Notchview opens for early season skiing offering 27 km of trails of all difficulties—a mix of classical and ski skating trails; 17 km are groomed and tracked with two trailside shelters plus the Budd Visitor Center. Skiing was offered for more than 100 days last year! Trail surfaces have been improved to remain open in wet weather. Call about lodging at one of the Hilltown Inns or stay at The Trustees' Field Farm Guest House in nearby Williamstown. Members: FREE. Non-members: adult \$7, child \$2.

**SUN, DEC 6 – 11 A.M. to 3 P.M.**

**Holiday Open House at The Mission House**

*The Mission House, Stockbridge 413/298-3239*

Tour the holiday-bedecked Mission House and enjoy festive refreshments. While in Stockbridge, take part in the annual holiday weekend, *Main Street at Christmas*. Call for further information. Members: FREE. Non-members: \$5 admission.

**WED, DEC 30; FRI, JAN 29; SAT, FEB 27 – 7 P.M. to 9 P.M.**  
**Moonlight Skiing at Notchview**

*Notchview, Windsor 413/684-0148*

Come experience the excitement of skiing the winter woods by moonlight. You may join a guided tour or ski with your own group. Hot cider and popcorn will be served in the Budd Visitor Center. Members: FREE. Non-members: adult \$7, child \$2.

**SUN, JAN 10 – 9 A.M. to 3 P.M.**

**Ski Fest '99**

*Notchview, Windsor 413/684-0148*

This international Learn-to-Ski day is now a tradition in its fifth year at Notchview. We will offer lessons, discounted rentals, waxing clinics, and fun activities that will get you out to enjoy the winter. Members: FREE. Non-members: adult \$7, child \$2.

**SNOWSHOEING / HIKING – 10 A.M.**

**Sat, Dec 19 at Questing, New Marlborough**

**Sat, Jan 16 at Tyringham Cobble, Tyringham**

**Sat, Feb 20 at Mountain Meadow Preserve, Williamstown**

The winter landscape has something unique to offer at each of these Berkshire reservations. Bring along your snowshoes if necessary, or your hiking boots, and we will head out to explore these special places. Walks will be held weather permitting. Please call 413/229-8600 to pre-register. Members: adult \$4, child (8-16) \$1. Non-members: adult \$6, child (8-16) \$2.

**WINTER LECTURE SERIES AT THE COBBLE**

*Bartholomew's Cobble, Sheffield 413/229-8600*

Members: adult \$4, child (6-12) \$1. Non-members: adult \$6, child \$2.

**SAT, DEC 5 at 7 P.M. The Snakes of New England**

Join Tom Tynning, Audubon's Herpetologist and author of *Amphibians and Reptiles: A Stokes Guide*, for a presentation on the 14 species of snakes found in New England.

**FRI, JAN 8 at 7 P.M. The Birds of Southeastern Arizona**

As a refreshing break from the winter doldrums, come to this presentation led by René Laubach, The Massachusetts Audubon Society's Berkshire Sanctuaries Director and author of *A Guide to Natural Places of the Berkshires*.

**SAT, FEB 13 at 7 P.M. The Salton Sea**

Join Naturalist David St. James for this presentation on the Salton Sea, an area in southern California 35 miles long and up to 15 miles wide that was created by overflow of the Colorado River in 1905 and is now attracting over 400 species of birds.

The following events are jointly sponsored by The Trustees and the Appalachian Mountain Club, which is offering a series of weekend winter workshops based at The Trustees' Field Farm Guest House in Williamstown. Fees include instruction, Friday and Saturday night lodging, Saturday breakfast through Sunday lunch meals. Instructor: Kathleen O'Rourke, AMC naturalist and ski instructor specializing in older skiers and beginners. For more information and registration, please contact the AMC's Western Regional Office at 413/443-0011.

**FRI, JAN 22 through SUN, JAN 24**  
**Cross-Country Skiing for Beginners**

**FRI, JAN 29 through SUN, JAN 31**  
**Cross-Country Skiing for Beginners 50 and Over**

Say good-bye to crowded downhill slopes and join us for a weekend of cross-country skiing. If you are new to skiing, this workshop will start you off with the fundamentals of equipment, safety, conditioning, and technique. Rental equipment available. Members: \$180. Non-members: \$200.

**MAY 1 through 9 – Birding Southeast Arizona**

Join Western Regional Ecologist Don Reid and visit the best birding areas in the Southwest: Ramsey Canyon, Saguaro National Park, the Huachuca Mountains, and more. *Space is limited, please reserve early!* Call Don at 413/229-8600 for more information.





# FINANCIAL REPORT

April 1, 1997 – March 31, 1998

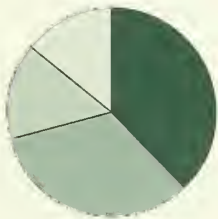
The Trustees of Reservations' financial position remains strong, as the organization continues to support its ongoing operations and implement initiatives outlined in the *Trustees 2000 Strategic Plan*.

Total income increased to \$8,013,000, while expenses were \$7,270,000, resulting in an operating surplus for the fiscal year of \$743,000 that will be used for capital expenditures and major one-time projects.

I am pleased to report that all revenue sources exceeded goal. Contributions/Grants, driven by our two Giving Societies, grew to \$1,203,000. Membership income increased to \$1,207,000. Reservation and events receipts totaled \$2,794,000. And, operating support from endowment increased to \$2,809,000.

Members, donors, staff, and volunteers of The Trustees should take great pride in our sound financial position. Thanks to you, we had an exceptional year!

**FY 1998 Income**



- Membership 15%
- Contributions/Grants 15%
- Operating Support from Endowment 35%
- Reservation Receipts/Events 35%

**FY 1998 Expenses**



- Communications & Marketing 3%
- Land Conservation Center 6%
- Development 7%
- General and Administrative 9%
- Field Operations 75%

*John O. Parker*

John O. Parker, Treasurer

## '98 ANNUAL APPEAL

Every Special Place Needs a Special Person...YOU!



By now, you should have received information about the 1998 Annual Appeal. Our goal is to raise \$1,250,000 to support ongoing stewardship of our reservations and enable The Trustees to protect additional special places across the state during FY 1999. With your support, we are confident we can reach this goal!

The Annual Appeal benefits from gifts made to *The 1891 Society* and *The Charles Eliot Society* as well as from donations above and beyond membership dues or contributions to special projects.

If you have not already donated to the '98 Annual Appeal, please consider making a gift today. No gift is too small!

# NOTEWORTHY

News & Shorts of All Sorts

## Antifreeze Isn't Just for Cars

Spotted at Petticoat Hill in Williamsburg, this well-camouflaged common wood frog (*Rana sylvatica*) can live as far north as the Arctic Circle! But, how does it survive the winter cold? Unlike other species, which spend the winter buried in mud at the bottom of ponds, wood frogs hibernate on the forest



© 1998 TTOR / ALTRIF

floor under just a few layers of leaves. Their secret is "antifreeze." When temperatures drop in the autumn, wood frogs begin to produce glucose inside their body cells. This sugar acts much like a car's antifreeze by preventing cell fluids from freezing,

expanding, and then bursting. The fluid outside these cells, however, remains unchanged and freezes solid. When warm temperatures arrive in spring, wood frogs thaw out and seek nearby vernal pools and other wetlands to breed!

## The Trustees Welcomes Five New Staff Members.

- Darrell DeTour, Conservation Restriction Program Assistant
- Pamela McEntee, Media & Public Relations Manager
- Steve Pierce, Maintenance Foreman, Ipswich/Newbury Management Unit
- Charlie St. Cyr, Farmer, Appleton Farms
- Charlie Wolcott, Agriculture and Maintenance Technician, Appleton Farms

This summer, a new Clivus composting toilet system was installed on Great Misery Island in Salem Bay, thanks to an anonymous \$7,500 challenge grant which was later matched by another \$7,500 in additional donations. Thanks also go to architect David Berner of Marblehead who volunteered many hours of his time to design the facility.



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## Missing Persons Search Dogs Practice their Skills at Fork Factory Brook.

A group of dog trainers recently tested the skills of six dogs taught to search for missing people. The trainers scattered articles of clothing in tall grass in a field at Fork Factory Brook in Medfield and evaluated their dogs' abilities to find them!



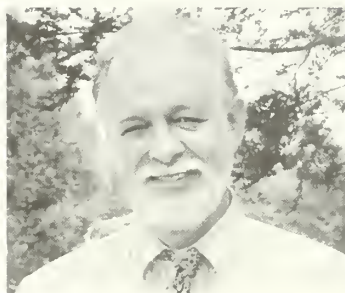
## Noteworthy...continued



**Volunteers at Work (and play!).** A group of Landmark Volunteers helped The Trustees to construct a raised boardwalk over a heavily eroded section of trail at Menemsha Hills on Martha's Vineyard. After their

work was completed, they enjoyed a natural history tour of Cape Poge Wildlife Refuge, as seen here. *If you are part of or know of a group interested in volunteering for The Trustees, contact Associate Director of Membership & Volunteer Involvement, Susan McGarvey, at 978/524-1859 or email her at ttormemb@ttor.org.*

For his outstanding work in fostering collaborative conservation partnerships across the state, our very own **Director of Land Conservation, Wes Ward**, was recently given a **Governor's Award for Open Space Preservation** by the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs and The Blue Ribbon Panel for Open Space Protection.



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### On Our Holiday Wish List

Greg Chanis, Superintendent of Misery Islands in Salem Sound, would love Santa to bring him a boat (15- to 20-foot range, such as a Boston Whaler or Mako) in working condition either with or without an operating outboard motor. Since such a gift won't fit down his chimney, please call Greg at 978/281-0041 to make alternative arrangements.

Hmmmm...  
a boat. Has  
Greg been  
good?



**Lee Brown Bird Thicket Dedicated at Mytoi Garden.** On the occasion of his 90th birthday, Lee Brown (left, with his daughter Janet Jussel), long-time Chappaquiddick conservationist and "founding father" of Cape Poge and Wasque reservations, was recently honored for his uncompromising

advocacy for the protection of Chappaquiddick's unique natural heritage. A bird thicket, named in his honor, will be created as part of the ongoing restoration program at Mytoi Garden. The thicket, comprising small trees and shrubs, will provide food and shelter for Chappy's fine feathered friends!

### Cape Poge Lighthouse Receives a Make-Over.

The lighthouse at the northern tip of Cape Poge Wildlife Refuge on Chappaquiddick Island has never looked better thanks to a program of restoration and renovation. It now boasts a fresh coat of paint on the outside, newly plastered and painted walls on the inside, a freshly varnished staircase, new windows, and a new spot light. You can visit the lighthouse by going on a Natural History Tour of Cape Poge next summer.



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**Cross-Country Skiing Opportunities Abound.** With some 17 kilometers of well-groomed cross-country ski trails, Notchview in Windsor is The Trustees' most popular



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wintertime reservation, especially for classical cross-country skiers. *Don't pay any attention to the weatherman, either!* When ski conditions elsewhere around the state are poor, Notchview often receives

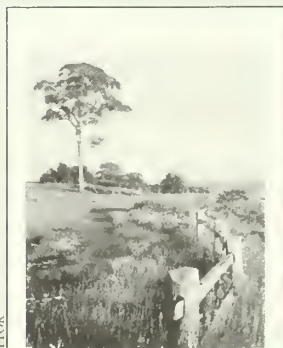
heavy snow because of its relatively high altitude. Call the information hotline at 413/684-0148 for daily condition reports. Cross-country skiing is also offered on ungroomed trails at over 30 other reservations, including Bartholomew's Cobble in Sheffield, Ravenswood Park in Gloucester, Brooks Woodland Preserve in Petersham, and Whitney & Thayer Woods in Cohasset & Hingham. Consult your *Property Guide* for a complete list of cross-country ski destinations.

Ghislaine Silvers, a horticultural student from Somerset, England, spent three months this summer training and working with Superintendent Bob Murray at The Stevens-Coolidge Place in North Andover.



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**Congratulations to John Rogers** of Boxford, MA for his winning color photograph of the Coolidge Reservation in Manchester-by-the-Sea. This image proudly appears on the



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cover of our 1998 *Annual Report*! A hearty thank you to every Trustees member who entered the photo competition and donated their images to our photographic library. Look for information about next year's competition in the spring 1999 issue of *Special Places*.

**Complimentary copies of the 1998 Annual Report are available upon request from Jennifer Daly at 978/524-1861.**



# VOLUNTEER PROFILE

## Betty Stone

During the long history of The Trustees of Reservations, we have enjoyed the support of a great many individuals who have volunteered countless hours of their time in support of our mission. In recent years, we have recognized the generosity of such individuals by presenting them with a special volunteer service award. This year's Volunteer of the Year is Betty Stone who, for almost ten years now, has dedicated much of her time to the Sedgwick Gardens at Long Hill in Beverly.


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Betty's contributions are many. As Chair of the Long Hill Garden Committee, she played an important role in the development of Long Hill's Master Plan and continues to play a leading role in the ongoing stewardship of the garden. Betty also mobilized a group of over 50 volunteers, called the Sedgwick Garden Associates, who help to plan and run Long Hill's very popular Mother's Day Plant Sale each May. Betty helped to research, write, and design the Sedgwick Gardens' self-guided brochure and, each year, she helps to organize and publicize Long Hill's annual series of horticultural lectures and workshops.

Lillabeth Wies, Dan Bouchard, Ed Boulay, and the rest of the staff at The Trustees of Reservations are grateful to you, Betty, for all that you have done. Thank you! 🍀

## A Special Thank You for Recent Honorary and Memorial Gifts

An **Honorary Gift** to The Trustees of Reservations is a great way to recognize a special friend, colleague, or mentor who enjoys the outdoors or historic sites. We would like to thank those who have recently made Honorary Gifts on the occasion of the birthday, marriage, anniversary, or retirement of the following individuals:

Leland S. Brown • Mr. and Mrs. Gordon W. Ditchfield  
Daniel England III • Mr. and Mrs. John Fleck  
Mr. and Mrs. Simon Holdaway

**Memorial Gifts** are the perfect way to remember a loved one, especially upon the anniversary of his/her passing. We are deeply honored and grateful to have recently received memorial gifts for the following individuals:

Stephen D. Anderson • Edward L. Brown • A. Margaret Burt  
Barbara Casey • Eugene Casey • Nancy A. Claflin  
Camilla C. Coolidge • Edith P. Dater • Robert J. Deeley  
Daniel A. Durgin • Catherine S. Foley • Pauline Franke  
Gordon Getsinger • Almon H. Huff • Kenneth A. Ives  
Martin S. Meigs • Harry H. Schnabel, Jr. • Patricia Specht  
Charles J. Webb II

Both Honorary and Memorial Gifts are tax-deductible and can be designated for use at a favorite reservation or for a program of your choice. *For further information, contact Jennifer Daly, Development Assistant, at 978/524-1861.*

## The GIFT of MEMBERSHIP

-As the season of giving approaches, don't forget the perfect gift—membership in The Trustees of Reservations.

Membership in The Trustees opens up a world of possibilities, with 80 of the most beautiful landscapes in Massachusetts, all for you, your friends, and family to explore and enjoy.

I'd like to give a gift of membership at the following level:  
(Please check one)

- |                    |   |  |
|--------------------|---|--|
| Individual:        | <input type="checkbox"/> Standard (\$40)      | <input type="checkbox"/> Seniors/Students (\$30) |
| Friends & Family:  | <input type="checkbox"/> Standard (\$60)      | <input type="checkbox"/> Seniors/Students (\$50) |
| Benefactor Levels: | <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing (\$100) | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting (\$150)      |
|                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining (\$300)   | <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor (\$600)         |

**Giver's Name (please print):**

Mr. Mrs.  
Ms. Miss

First Middle Initial Last

Address

City / Town State Zip Code

( ) ( )  
Daytime phone Evening phone Email address

**Recipient's name (please print):**

Mr. Mrs.  
Ms. Miss

First Middle Initial Last

Address

City / Town State Zip Code

( ) ( )  
Daytime phone Evening phone Email address

**New members receive a gift membership packet which contains a greeting card with a special message from you. This packet can either be sent directly to the recipient or to you. Just let us know your preference.**

(Please check one)

☐ Please send the membership packet to the Giver's address.

☐ Please send the membership packet to the Recipient's address.

Please make checks payable to The Trustees of Reservations and return with this form to: Membership Dept., The Trustees of Reservations, 572 Essex St., Beverly, MA 01915-1530. *Don't forget to attach a note with your greeting card message.*

# RESERVATIONS MANAGEMENT

## Focus on Parking

Many of you who support the conservation work of The Trustees of Reservations do so, at least in part, because of five key words in our mission: *for public use and enjoyment*. This charter purpose is what makes the 80 reservations we now protect so valuable to the communities they serve. It's also what sets The Trustees apart from many other conservation organizations.

However, meeting the public's need for parking is rapidly becoming one of the greatest management challenges of our mission. While parking may detract from the conservation values of the landscapes we protect, we must accept that cars will continue to provide the public with



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*and opening to the public, beautiful and historical places and tracts of land within this Commonwealth;*

its primary means of

transportation to our reservations. So, how do we resolve the conservation vs. public access question? The answer is not simply a matter of "to park or not to park." It is far more complicated.

As we develop management plans for each of our reservations, we ask ourselves the following parking-related questions:

- At reservations where basic roadside parking and/or modest off-road parking is not sufficient to meet peak demand, such as on hot summer days or crisp fall weekends, should we create overflow parking areas and pay for traffic studies, engineering, and other costs sometimes required for permitting and installation?
- At reservations where there is no roadside or off-road parking and where The Trustees does not own the land located between the nearest road and the main entrance to the reservation, should we purchase such land to create parking areas? Or, should we secure easements across such land to build and maintain roads into our reservations where parking areas can be created?
- How can we determine a parking area size sufficient for present—and future—needs, and should such areas be surfaced for year-round or seasonal use?
- How can we ensure that creating or expanding parking facilities does not lead to excessive visitation and the degradation of the landscape or diminishment of the visitor experience? In other words, should we limit parking to protect the conservation and recreational value of the landscape?
- How should we balance the preferences of the immediate neighborhoods around our reservations with the needs of the



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Cars overflow the roadside turn-off at Dinosaur Footprints in Holyoke.

public at-large? How can we create parking that will blend as well as possible with the surrounding landscape?

- How do we make certain that parking areas will be used exclusively by well-intentioned visitors to the reservation

and not for other purposes? Will having concealed parking areas lead to inappropriate uses which will have to be mitigated at significant cost?

- How do we provide parking at historic house properties or at reservations located in local historic districts or near ecologically delicate habitats?

As you visit our reservations around the state and observe the parking facilities which exist, we hope that these points will help you to understand the kinds of issues we face. We take great pride in managing our reservations *for public use and enjoyment*, but pursuing this mission at the end of the 20th century—and into the new millennium—is full of challenges which our founder, Charles Eliot, could never have envisioned. In 1891, cars had not yet been invented, and the genuine, though perhaps misguided, notion of an idyllic car-based society was still to come.

The Trustees remains committed to finding new and creative ways to meet these challenges. Thank you for your ongoing support of our work! 🌿

## Cohasset Heights Landfill Closes

For over 20 years, The Trustees has actively opposed the operation and expansion of the Cohasset Heights Landfill which has steadily encroached upon the borders of Whitney & Thayer Woods, silting up its wetlands and leaching liquids onto the ground. Under the supervision of the Cohasset Conservation Commission, the owners of the



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landfill have recently worked to restore wetlands on the reservation which had been damaged by the landfill.

Most important, the owners ended the landfill's operation. Negotiations are underway to mitigate other issues of erosion control and groundwater protection in the post-closure era.



# 1998 ANNUAL MEETING

At our Annual Meeting on September 16th at Castle Hill,



**Janice Hunt** (left) was newly elected as President of The Trustees and Sydney Smithers as Secretary. Re-elected were Elliot Surkin as Chair; Charles Kane, Henry Reeder, and Mary Waters Shepley as Vice Presidents; and John Parker as Treasurer. Others were elected to positions as Corporate Trustees and members of both the Standing Committee and the Advisory Council.

We wish to acknowledge a debt of gratitude to Tom Ellsworth, Flora Epstein, Gail Guild, Tom O'Donnell, Peter Spang, and Wiley Vaughan, all of whom received long-time service awards. A special thank you goes to departing President **Al Creighton** (right) who has served The Trustees as a two-term member of both the Standing Committee and Advisory Council and, since 1994, as President. The success of The Trustees is directly attributable to Al's visionary leadership over more than twenty years of service. We look forward to his continued service as Chair of the Chairman's Council.



**Pamela Weatherbee** was honored as The Trustees' **1998 Conservationist of the Year**. She is a member of The



Trustees' Field Farm Property Committee, a board member of the Williamstown Rural Lands Trust, and a past member of the Williamstown Conservation Commission. As a botanist, Pam has been instrumental in our successful management and interpretation of the natural resources at several reservations in the Western Region, and, in 1994, she helped The Trustees acquire the Caves Lot parcel at Field Farm. In addition, Pam is currently completing plans to donate a magnificent 98-acre parcel in Williamstown called Mountain Meadow Preserve, which will become a reservation.

**Betty Stone** received The Trustees' **1998 Volunteer of the Year** award. Please read about Betty's work at Long Hill in our profile of her on page 9.

**Kate Wollensak**, The Trustees' Publications Manager, was recognized as The Trustees' **1998 Employee of the Year**. Kate manages the organization's entire print design and production program, including this very newsletter. Congrats Kate! 🍀



## THE SEMPER VIRENS SOCIETY



### You Can Double Your Yield!

Are you a shareholder in any of the following 26 highly regarded companies, all of whose stock yields less than 3%? If you own some of these stocks (or any whose yield is in this range), you might consider a life income gift arrangement, called a **charitable gift annuity**, which could more than double your yield and would ultimately benefit The Trustees.

#### Highly Regarded Companies with Stock Yields of Less Than 3%

<b>American Express</b>	1.1%	<b>Merck &amp; Co.</b>	1.6%
<b>AT&amp;T</b>	2.2%	<b>Microsoft</b>	0.0%
<b>Boeing</b>	1.7%	<b>Monsanto</b>	0.2%
<b>Campbell Soup</b>	1.6%	<b>Motorola</b>	1.0%
<b>Coca Cola</b>	1.0%	<b>New York Times</b>	1.4%
<b>Disney (Walt)</b>	0.8%	<b>Pepsi Co.</b>	1.7%
<b>Federal Express</b>	0.0%	<b>Pfizer Inc.</b>	0.7%
<b>General Electric</b>	1.4%	<b>Procter &amp; Gamble</b>	1.5%
<b>Hewlett-Packard</b>	1.2%	<b>Schering-Plough Co.</b>	0.8%
<b>IBM</b>	0.7%	<b>Time Warner</b>	0.4%
<b>Intel</b>	0.2%	<b>Wal-Mart Stores</b>	0.5%
<b>Lilly (Eli)</b>	1.0%	<b>Warner-Lambert</b>	0.8%
<b>McDonald's</b>	0.6%	<b>Xerox</b>	1.7%

(On 9/23/98)

To learn how to set up a charitable gift annuity, or for information about a range of other life income gift arrangements, please call Eloise Hodges, Director of Planned Giving, at 978/524-1876.

#### Please let us know

- ☐ I would like information on how to set up a charitable gift annuity or other life income gift arrangement.
- ☐ I would like information on how to include The Trustees in my will.
- ☐ I have remembered The Trustees in my estate plan. In recognition of my planned gift, please make me a member of *The Semper Virens Society*, which means 'forever green'.

Mr. Mrs.  
Ms. Miss

First

Middle Initial

Last

Address

City / Town

State

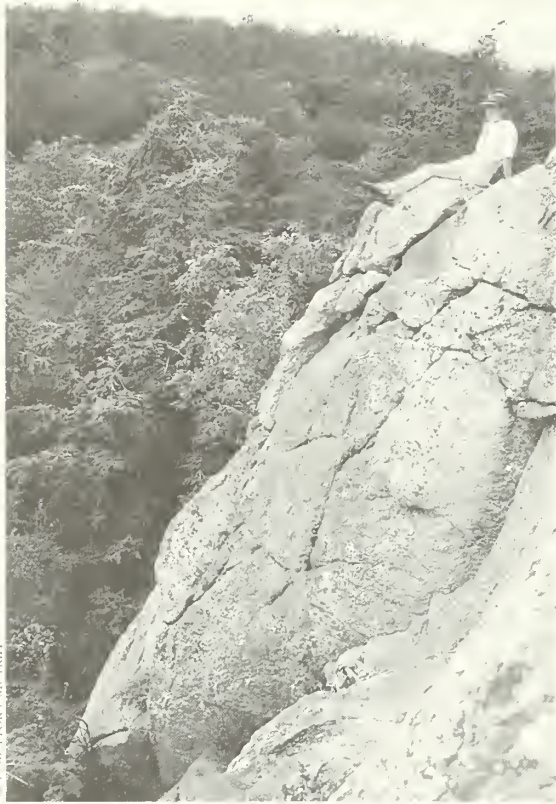
Zip Code

( )  
Telephone

Please fill out and return this form to:

Eloise Hodges, Director of Planned Giving • The Trustees of Reservations  
572 Essex Street, Beverly, MA 01915-1530 or call 978/524-1876

# Going Places... SPECIAL PLACES! Chapelbrook, Ashfield



Stunning views open up from atop Pony Mountain.

Located in the southwest corner of Franklin County in the small community of South Ashfield, 173-acre Chapelbrook Reservation remains one of The Trustees' least known jewels. Named after the brook that drops 10, 15, and then 25 feet in a series of sparkling waterfalls and pools, Chapelbrook's diverse landscape also includes many acres of forest and woodland and its most dominant feature, Pony Mountain, a popular destination for rock climbers. The mountain's summit can be reached via a circuitous trail which meanders around and up the back side of the mountain. At the top, conifers cling to rocky ledges which afford spectacular views of the surrounding hills. Though great in spring for its abundance of wildflowers and in summer for its diversity of fauna, Chapelbrook is truly at its best in winter when its surrounding evergreen forest is cloaked in snow and ice and its trickling brook sings amidst the surrounding silent landscape.

To get to Chapelbrook from Ashfield Center, take Route 116 east 1.5 miles to South Ashfield. Where Route 116 turns left, continue straight ahead on Williamsburg Road for 2.2 miles (follow Williamsburg Route 8 signs). The entrance to the reservation is on the right just before you reach the bridge. Trails to Pony Mountain depart from there. Cross the road to reach the cascades of Chapel Brook. 🌿

**Please tell us about your favorite day trip to one of our 80 reservations! We'll highlight it here in *Special Places*. Mail to: Editors, *Special Places*, Headquarters, Long Hill, 572 Essex Street, Beverly, MA 01915-1530 or email us at [cmdept@ttor.org](mailto:cmdept@ttor.org)**

*Address service requested  
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**SPECIAL PLACES**  
A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER  
Volume 6, No. 4  
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Headquarters  
Long Hill  
572 Essex Street  
Beverly, MA 01915-1530  
Tel 978/921-1944  
Fax 978/921-1948

**The Trustees**  
of Reservations

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